

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 205722
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 205722

NODIS

FOR Z. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT VIENNA 7832, SENT SECSTATE 28 AUG:

QUOTE S E C R E T VIENNA 7832

NODIS

USIAEA

EO 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: MARR, US, ST, GW

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ISSUE

REF: STATE 205596

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, IT WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT TO GIVE
AGENCY AS MUCH LEAD TIME AS POSSIBLE IF THEY ARE EXPECTED
TO ACT RAPIDLY AND EFFECTIVELY. WHILE I WILL
OF COURSE AWAIT AUTHORIZATION BEFORE CONSULTING AGENCY
IN ANY WAY, DEPARTMENT SHOULD KNOW THAT DG EKLUND IS IN
SWEDEN UNTIL SEPTEMBER 9 AND DDG HALL IS ACTING DG UNTIL
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HIS RETURN. GIVEN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH HALL (U.S.), I
AM COMPLETELY CONFIDENT I COULD DISCUSS SUCH A SENSITIVE
ISSUE AS THIS WITG HIM AND COUNT ON HIM TO HOLD INFORMA-
TION PERSONALLY AND ONLY INFORM DG AT SUCH TIME AS
DEPARTMENT PREPARED HAVE HIM INFORMED. IN SAYING FORE-
GOING I AM NOT REPEAT NOT SEEKING AUTHORIZATION INFORM
HALL ANY EARLIER THAN DEPARTMENT MAY WISH HIM INFORMED;

I ONLY WANT DEPARTMENT TO BE FULLY ADVISED OF SITUATION.

2. FOLLOWING ARE MY JUDGMENTS REQUESTED REFTEL AND
KEYED TO LETTERED PARAGRAPHS IN PARA 3.

A. I WOULD NOT ANTICIPATE ANY RELUCTANCE FOR POLITICAL
REASONS. MOST AGENCY STAFF CONSIDER RECENT BG ACTION
AS CONTRARY TO STATUTE AND IN ANY EVENT UNRELATED TO
ITS SAFEGUARDS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.
THERE WOULD LIKELY BE SOME RELUCTANCE ON PART OF TECHNICAL
STAFF, HOWEVER, FOR TECHNICAL REASONS, I.E., IAEA HAS
NEVER SAFEGUARDED ANY TYPE OF ENRICHMENT PLANT BEFORE
AND HAS FEW IF ANY DETAILED TECHNICAL PROCEDURES OR
TECHNIQUES AVAILABLE FOR THAT PURPOSE. FROM A TECHNICAL
STANDPOINT, THEREFORE, IAEA SAFEGUARDS STAFF WOULD
LIKELY BE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT BEING ABLE TO DO THE
JOB WITHOUT CONSIDERABLE AND TIME CONSUMING PREPARATORY
WORK.

B. YES, GIVEN SUFFICIENT TIME FOR PREPARATORY WORK.

C. SOME FORM OF SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WOULD BE
REQUIRED FOR APPLYING SAFEGUARDS. DEPENDING ON WHAT THE
QUOTE INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS UNQUOTE WILL CONSIST OF, SOME
OTHER RELATIONSHIP MIGHT BE CONSIDERED, I.E., SOUTH
AFRICA MIGHT INVITE AGENCY TO PARTICIPATE QUOTE
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ON SITE UNQUOTE IN DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS
PROCEDURES. AS DEPARTMENT NOTES, THIS WOULD NOT BE
QUOTE SAFEGUARDS, UNQUOTE BUT IT COULD RESULT IN AN
AGENCY PRESENCE. AGENCY COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO
ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR QUOTE EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS
UNQUOTE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS MADE
AND PROCEDURES DEVELOPED FOR SAFEGUARDING THE VALINDABA
PLANT.

D. A SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WOULD REQUIRE BOARD
APPROVAL. LAST BG SET A DEADLINE OF TWO WEEKS BEFORE
BG MEETING FOR CIRCULATION OF TEXTS OF SAFEGUARDS
AGREEMENTS. NEXT BG MEETINGS ARE SEPTEMBER 23
AND OCTOBER 3 AND THEN NOT UNTIL FEBRUARY 1978. SPECIAL
BG MEETING COULD BE CONSIDERED.

E. PROVIDED SAG WISHED INVITE IAEA THERE COULD BE
AGENCY PRESENCE. AS NOTED IN C ABOVE AND IN REFTEL,
THIS COULD BE JOINT EXERCISE TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS
PROCEDURES OR SOME OTHER MUTUALLY AGREED ARRANGEMENT.
SAG COOPERATION WOULD BE ESSENTIAL TO ACCOMPLISH THIS.

F. IF IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION WITH ANY CERTAINTY WITHOUT CONSULTING THE AGENCY SINCE I AM UNAWARE OF THEIR PRECISE MANPOWER SITUATION OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. IN PRINCIPLE, HOWEVER, THERE SHOULD BE NO MAJOR PROBLEM PROVIDED SUFFICIENT STAFF ARE AVAILABLE.

G. SINCE CREDIBLE SAFEGUARDS ARE SO HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON POLITICAL AND PROCEDURAL CONSIDERATIONS, IT IS IMPRACTICAL TO ASSESS AGENCY'S CAPABILITY IN THIS RESPECT.

H. I WOULD NOT ANTICIPATE ANY INSURMOUNTABLE PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH COMPOSITION OF IAEA
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INSPECTION TEAMS, PROVIDED THAT AGENCY HAS SUFFICIENT TIME TO COPE WITH POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES THROUGH INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. STONE UNQUOTE. VANCE

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NNN

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